

Arizona Invasive Species Advisory Committee Meeting (AISAC)
Tuesday, August 7, 2007 Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

- Alix Rogstad (Arizona Sonoran Desert Museum)
- Bill Werner (ADWR)
- Brandy Petrone (TNC)
- Brenda Smith (US FWS)
- Brian Moorhead (Salt River Project)
- Bruce Eilerts (ADOT)
- Christine Conte (Arizona Sonoran Desert Museum, for Dr. Brusca)
- Cindy Coping (Cattle Growers)
- Dan Shein (ASP)
- Duane Shroufe, Co-Chair (AGFD)
- Donald Butler, Co-Chair (ADA)
- Doug Witte (ASLD)
- Ed Northam (Southwest Vegetation Management, for Cooperative Weed management)
- Elisabeth Lawaczek (ADHS)
- Gary Russell (USDA APHIS)
- Glenn Fahringer (Cave Creek; Landscape and Nursery Industry)
- Glen Knowles (FWS AZ ESO)
- Greg Beatty (FWS AZ ESO)
- Jeffrey Myers (AZ Department of Agriculture)
- Joanne Roberts (ASP)
- John Brock (ASU)
- John Gerstenberger (PETsMart)
- Kai Umeda (UofA, Cooperative Extension)
- Larry Riley (AGFD)
- Marianne Meding (AGFD)
- Melinda Deswood (Navajo Nation) (via telephone)
- Randy English (US Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground)
- Sam Lofland (Ryley Carlock & Applewhite)
- Tom Klabunde (TNF)
- Tonya Norwood-Pearson (AACD)

Roll Call of Arizona invasive Species Advisory Council (Council) members and sign in.

Marianne Meding called the meeting to order at 10:10 am. Marianne introduced the two co-chairs, Director Duane Shroufe from AGFD and Director Donald Butler from ADA.

The 2nd Arizona invasive Species Advisory Council (Council) meeting commenced with Co-Chair Duane Shroufe conducting roll call.

Welcome & Introductions.

Duane Shroufe welcomed everyone and introductions began. Those in attendance included four designees that are not yet officially appointed to Council, and the hope is that a full panel will be in place in time for the next meeting scheduled in September. Guests introduced themselves. The Council was informed that two guests scheduled to attend today's meeting, Dr. Orr and Dr. Thomas will not be in attendance, however will hopefully be able to attend the September meeting. Duane and Marianne pointed out a couple of the housekeeping rules including requesting members of the public fill out a speakers' cards if they wished to talk on an issue not listed as an agenda item, as well as for all attendees to

initial the sign-in roster. Ethics training, a requirement for Council was discussed and Marianne verified that Federal employees would need to receive the required State ethics training.

Approval of Minutes.

Approval of the Minutes from July 19, 2007 were motioned and seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Working Group reports (include timeline for milestones).

Doug Witte, Co-Lead of the Leadership & Coordination work group, and Kai Umeda, Lead of the Research & Information Management work groups were asked if any changes or modifications to their Charters were needed after their first meeting. Both responses were no. Doug brought Council up to date on information shared in a meeting held earlier in the day. Doug expressed that one of the most important parts of the leadership & Coordination working group committee is to make sure that all of the partners at all levels are involved. It was expressed that there are 26 units of government and that there will be a need for a spirit of cooperation. The Council was informed by Christine Conte and Alix Rogstad that there is a graduate level class at the University of Arizona whose sole curricula is to vision what a Center for Invasive Species would mean for the State of Arizona. The Council was informed that Dr. Stephen Yool is the professor overseeing this class. Dr. Yool will be invited to attend the next working group meeting to share his vision. Based on that assessment Dr. Yool may be asked to make a presentation to the Council. Doug stated that working group meetings will be scheduled prior to the next council meeting in September. The floor was open for comments and questions for Doug. Doug suggested that Council send Dr. Yool a letter expressing the Council's interest in the course he is teaching at the University of Arizona, making the expertise of Council available to him as he develops the curriculum, also making sure that he is aware of some of the issues facing Council. Doug Witte made a motion to draft a letter to Dr. Yool. The motion was seconded by Christine Conte. The motion passed unanimously. **Action:** Doug Witte to work with Marianne Meding to draft a letter to Dr. Yool. Joanne Roberts volunteered to supply Dr. Yool's address.

Kai Umeda updated Council on the Research & Information Management work group. Kai informed Council that after the working group brainstormed on what direction they would go in regards to the Charter that it was decided that the group would start to work on the structure for the Center for Invasive Species, coming up with three or four scenarios of how this center could be set up. The Center would cover functions such as outreach, education, and data management. The group agreed that the center should be able to function as a center for coordinating research. The group plans to have future discussions on how to detail the more individual functions when it comes to staffing the center. The group discussed the notion of connecting with other entities that are already established and that have networks. Kai informed Council that the group is still in the brainstorming stage, figuring out where some of the areas are that need to be targeted. Future group sessions will give better direction on how to proceed with an organization of this structure. Kai stated that this was a great starting point, and thanked everyone who participated and gave suggestions in the

meeting that was held that morning. The next meeting of the working group is scheduled for August 27, 2007 with a start time of 10:30 a.m. Details pertaining to the center will be addressed.

Duane Shroufe opened the floor for comments and questions. Joanne Roberts refreshed the memory of Council that at a previous discussion, a template was to be provided to the Sub-Committee members in order to stay on task. Duane Shroufe informed Council that a template is currently being developed by Marianne Meding. **Action:** Marianne to provide a template prior to the August 16th Leadership and Coordination work group meeting and to bring template to Council at September 6th meeting for input and approval. Duane thanked both Doug and Kai on the progress being made in the working groups.

Arizona Game and Fish Department (AGFD) Quagga mussel response plan.

Larry Riley with Arizona Game and Fish Department gave a brief power point overview of actions being taken by the Arizona Game and Fish Department and other organizations to address the recent invasion of the Quagga mussel in Arizona waters. Larry gave a definition of the Quagga mussel. The Council got to view a sample of Zebra shells. Larry informed the Council that Quagga and Zebra mussels are closely related, and to differentiate them takes someone with technical knowledge and a sharp eye. Larry gave a synopsis of the Quagga mussel. Larry answered questions from the Council as he continued to describe the Quagga mussel and potential impacts and what those impacts included. The Council was informed that due to the fact that they stick to things, Quagga mussels can cause damage to recreational facilities and equipment including boats and marinas. Adult and potentially larva mussels can be moved by boat from lake to lake. Larry identified some of the Lakes in where adult Quagga mussels have been discovered and described possible ways to educate boaters as to Quagga mussels and the importance of having clean anchors. Discussion ensued on ways to identify Veligers, or baby Quagga mussels. The floor was then opened for questions. The Council gave input on ways to educate the public such as signage, as well as when buying a permit. Larry informed the Council that there is a self serving slide show as well as other tools that may be helpful to educate the public. Information on a web page was offered as a way to learn more about this topic. Larry stated that Arizona Game and Fish, along with other entities such as the National Park Service will be deploying signs in Quagga mussel infected areas in hopes of raising public awareness.

Other State's Invasive Species Initiatives.

Marianne Meding of the Arizona Game and fish Department gave a brief overview of approaches and responses taken by other States to address Invasive Species issues. Marianne found that the Midwest seems to have plans already in place to take action. Marianne researched and found that the Council would be helped most by the findings in the States of Oregon, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Hawaii. Most of the plans touched on the same issues and concepts. Marianne went over with Council what the main objectives are and the Invasive Species Councils that have been set up in each State. She identified some of the most interesting approaches that are mentioned in some of the plans and points that the Council may want to consider. She mentioned that Oregon's plan is somewhat parallel to

Arizona's with the exception that Oregon has a plan for new invasions. Identification of funding sources varied across the plans. Although useful information was found in all of the plans that Marianne researched, she informed Council that she hopes that over the next couple of months that she will be able to research some of the other invasive species plans and add them to the list.

Duane Shroufe opened the floor for questions and comments. Elisabeth Lawaczek asked if any of the plans Marianne reviewed addressed a concept similar to that of a Center for Invasive Species. Marianne indicated that she saw no mention of such a concept in the plans she reviewed. Ed Northam indicated that there are also a number of states that have weed management plans similar to the Aquatic Nuisance (ANS) plans that several states have developed. Duane thanked Marianne for the information that she provided.

National Level invasive Species Coordination and initiatives.

Larry Riley gave an overview of national coordination efforts regarding invasive species issues and reviewed the following groups/committees: National Invasive Species Council (NISC), which is a federal council that has three co-chairs. Their membership unlike this Council has a mixture of government, private, and stakeholders. They are comprised of secretarial cabinet level individuals that have an interest in invasive species. They have three Chairs: Secretary of Agriculture, Secretary of Commerce and Secretary of Interior. NISC was created by Executive Order. The Invasive Species Advisory Committee (ISAC), in which their Council is responsible for their plans and revisions. They developed the Cross Cut Budget, which is a complex effort. The object of this budget was to get a handle on what true expenditures were with regards to invasive species issues. Aquatic Nuisance species Task Force (ANSTF), which was created by federal legislation. Their objective is to coordinate across the United States a response to aquatic invasive species. They were heavily driven at one time by Zebra mussel. and Federal Interagency Committee for the Management of Noxious and Exotic Weeds (FICMNEW), which was established by Memorandum of Understanding in 1994. This partnership includes 19 federal agencies. Membership consists of federal membership. This groups' focus is along the same line that this Council is focused on. Larry stated that he saw these groups as collateral coordination groups. Some groups have more authority than others. Larry shared with Council that there are lessons to be learned from each of these different approaches to organization in respect to leadership and coordination, and that there are strategies to draw from. Larry asked Council for any details that they could offer on the topic.

National Legislation Overview.

Larry Riley discussed current national legislation pertaining to invasive species. Larry informed Council of packets that were made available that identifies invasive species that are currently before Congress. The packets also include items that are in Congressional Legislation that are being tracked through the Governor's office. Larry stated that there are thirty (30) bills of resolutions before the Congress in one house or the other right now. Larry reviewed some of the House Bills. He informed Council that if anyone is interested in following the legislation, a resourceful guide would be the Thomas Locator which is on the

Library Congress web page. It is a highly useful area and you can search on specific key words and find a wide range of different legislation. Larry informed Council that the USDA National Agriculture Library keeps track of federal legislation.

Call to the Public.

Duane opened the floor to the public to see if there were issues or concerns to be discussed with Council. Marianne stated that there were no blue sheets.

Future Agenda Items.

- Working group updates.
- Presentations from Dr. Orr and Dr. Thomas.
- Presentation from Health Services (Elisabeth Lawaczek) on linkages between invasive species and human health.
- Presentation from Ed Northam: Overview of Weed Management Plans.
- Communication: How to advise entities of the Council and its objectives.

Meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.